

## **Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

### **Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A method of automatically processing an image comprising the steps of:
  - locating, within the image, features having a high spatial variance by:- thresholding and skeletonising the image to produce an image comprising single pixel width definition of features; and
  - discarding features of the produced image having a size less than a predetermined size; and
  - fitting curves to the remaining features; and
  - stroking the image with a series of brush strokes emanating from remaining features of the produced image in accordance with the fitted curves.
2. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein said brush stroke have decreasing sizes near important features of the image.
3. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein said brush strokes include opacity and bump maps for added realism.
4. (Original) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the position of a predetermined portion of brush strokes undergoes random jittering.
5. (Cancelled).
6. (Cancelled).
7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the step of discarding comprises discarding located features having a size of less than 20 contiguous pixels.